

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A storage controller, to be coupled a storage media including a plurality of disk units, for handling input/output (I/O) requests from a plurality of processors, wherein the processors includes a first processor for sending block I/O requests and a second processor for sending file I/O requests, comprising:

a first interface to be coupled to the first processor;

a second interface to be coupled to the second processor;

a bus; and

a cache memory, coupled to said bus, for storing data in response to the block I/O requests and the file I/O requests,

wherein the first interface receives first read requests from the first processor to access a first portion of the storage media and send to the first processor corresponding data to the first read requests stored in the cache memory or the first portion, and

wherein the second interface receives second read requests from the second processor to access a second portion of the storage media and send to the second processor corresponding data to the second read requests stored in the cache memory or the second portion.

2. The storage controller of claim 1, wherein the file I/O requests are Common Internet File System (CIFS) or Network File System (NFS) type I/O requests.

3. The storage controller of claim 1, wherein the file I/O requests

are HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP) type I/O requests.

4. The storage controller of claim 1, wherein said block I/O requests are Small Computer Standard Interface (SCSI) type I/O requests.

5. A storage controller, to be coupled to a storage media include a plurality of disk units, for handling input/output (I/O) requests from a plurality of processors, wherein the processors includes a first processor for sending block I/O requests and a second processor for sending file I/O requests, comprising:

- a first interface to be coupled to the first processor;

- a second interface to be coupled to the second processor;

- a bus coupled to said first interface and the second interface;

- a bus coupled to said first interface and the second interface, and

- wherein the first interface receives first read requests from the first processor to access a first portion of the storage media and send to the first processor corresponding data to the first read requests stored the first portion,

- wherein the second interface receives second read requests from the second processor to access a second portion of the storage media and send to the second processor corresponding data to the second read requests stored in the second portion, and

- wherein said storage controller prohibits from accessing the first portion from the second processor.

6. The storage controller of claim 5, wherein the file I/O requests

are Common Internet File System (CIFS) or Network File System (NFS) type I/O requests.

7. The storage controller of claim 5, wherein the file I/O requests are HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP) type I/O requests.

8. The storage controller of claim 5, wherein said block I/O requests are Small Computer Standard Interface (SCSI) type I/O requests.

9. The storage controller of claim 5, wherein said storage controller further comprises:

a cache memory, operatively coupled to said bus, for storing data in response to the block I/O requests and the file I/O requests.

10. A storage controller, to be coupled to a storage media include a plurality of disk units, for handling input/output (I/O) requests from a plurality of processors, wherein the processors includes a first processor for sending block I/O requests and a second processor for sending file I/O requests, comprising:

a first interface to be coupled to the first processor;

a second interface to be coupled to the second processor;

a bus coupled to said first interface and the second interface,

wherein the first interface receives first read requests from the first processor to access a first portion of the storage media and send to the first processor corresponding data to the first read requests stored the first portion,

wherein the second interface receives second read requests from the second processor to access a second portion of the storage media and send to the second processor corresponding data to the second read requests stored in the second portion,

wherein said storage controller prohibits from accessing the second portion from the first processor.

11. The storage controller of claim 10, wherein the file I/O requests are Common Internet File System (CIFS) or Network File System (NFS) type I/O requests.

12. The storage controller of claim 10, wherein the file I/O requests are HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP) type I/O requests.

13. The storage controller of claim 10, wherein said block I/O requests are Small Computer Standard Interface (SCSI) type I/O requests.

14. The storage controller of claim 10, wherein said storage controller further comprises:

a cache memory, operatively coupled to said bus, for storing data in response to the block I/O requests and the file I/O requests.